Application No.: 10/748,281 Docket No.: ION-0221

## <u>REMARKS</u>

This is a full and timely response to the Office Action mailed July 11, 2006, submitted concurrently with a one month Extension of Time to extend the due date for response to November 11, 2006.

By this Amendment, claims 1 and 2 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to their underlying subject matter. Support for the claim amendments can be readily found variously throughout the specification and the original claims. Thus, claims 12 and 13 are currently pending in this application.

In view of these amendments, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

## Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Hsieh et al. (U.S. Patent 6,015,475) in view of Majolo et al. (DE 59 102 651). Applicant believes that this rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of the rejected claims.

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## **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are believed to be clearly patentable over the outstanding rejections. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the claims in light of the above remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Dated: November 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 180013 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.